

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 00222 131249Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 ACDA-07 IGA-02 NEAE-00 /063 W  
-----131257Z 029278 /46

P 131152Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 163  
INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY

S E C R E T AMMAN 0222

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, JO, US  
SUBJECT: JORDAN F-104S

1. FOR SOME TIME JORDANIANS HAVE DISCUSSED WITH US DIVESTING THEMSELVES OF THEIR ONLY SQUADRON OF F-104S (APPROXIMATELY 20 AIRCRAFT AND SPARE PARTS) WHICH THEY ACQUIRED PREDOMINATELY VIA FMS ROUTE. THIS MAKES GOOD SENSE TO US FOR ANUMBER OF IMPORTANT REASONS. MOST RECENT OCCASION WAS SERIES OF CONVERSATIONS WITH CURRENT CHIEF OF RJAF, FOLLOWED UP BY KING, CINC BIN SHAKER AND COURT CHIEF AND COUNT MINISTER.

2. JORDANIANS BELIEVE THAT CURRENT MARKET LIMITED TO SALE (OR POSSIBLE BARTER) TO CHILE, TURKEY, AND TAIWAN. WE HAVE INFORMALLY CAUTIONED THEM NOT TO ASSUME THAT CHILE AND TURKEY WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO US ON BASIS OF OUR CURRENT UNDERSTANDING THAT BOTH ARE SUBJECT TO US RESTRICTIONS ON DELIVERY THIS TYPE OF AIRCRAFT. WE MOST RECENTLY TOLD THEM HOWEVER THAT WE WOULD CHECK AGAIN WITH WASHINGTON TO DETERMINE WHETHER OUR UNDERSTANDING IS INDEED CORRECT.

3. AS FAR AS TAIWAN IS CONCERNED, GOJ HAS HAD LONGSTANDING AND CLOSE MILITARY RELATIONSHIP. IT BELIEVES, AS WE DO, THAT ROC HAS COMPARABLE MODEL F-104S AND THAT A BARTER DEAL IS MORE

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LIKELY TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS THAN ATTEMPT TO SELL. GOJ IS MOST INTERESTED IN F-5ES WHICH THEY KNOW ROC CO-PRODUCES. THEY ARE ALSO INTERESTED IN TRAINING ADDITIONAL TO WHAT THEY ALREADY RECEIVE FROM ROC, AND POSSIBLY EVEN SOME GROUND FORCE EQUIPMENT. GOJ PLANS SEND COURT MINISTER KHAMMASH TO TAIWAN SOON TO EXPLORE THIS ALTERNATIVE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: FOR DEPARTMENT - PLEASE VERIFY OR CORRECT OUR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT POLICY ON DISPOSAL THESE AIRCRAFT TO CHILE AND TURKEY AND ANY LIKLIHOOD OF CHANGE FAVORABLE TO GOJ INTERESTS.

FOR DEFENSE: PLEASE INDICATE ANY OTHER LIKELY MARKET FOR JORDAN'S F-104S.

FOR TAIPEI: WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR ASSESSMENT (WITHOUT PLEASE APPROACHING ROC ON THIS POINT) OF LIKELY INTEREST AND POSSIBILITY OF CONSUMATING SOME KIND OF BARTER DEAL FOR THESE AIRCRAFT BEARING IN MIND GOJ AND ROC PAST GOOD POLITICAL AND MILITARY RELATIONS.

PICKERING

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY SALES, F-5, F-104  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
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